The Times-Dispatch

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 1913.

THE BRIDGE APPROACH PROBLEM.

Richmond citizens interested in the proper growth of their city will approve the action of the Chamber of Commerce in urging the immediate formulation of plans for enlarging the approaches to the Mayo Bridge. This is a natural physical problem that confronts Richmond. It must be met and dealt with in a big and comprehensive way. It is precisely the same difficulty that arises in every city built upon two banks of a river. Intercourse between the two halves must be furthered by bridges and the accessory approaches. Since we cannot build a bridge at the foot of every street, we must handle all the traffic through one or two streets. These streets must be wide enough to prevent congestion in the bridge-bound traffic and the local traffic of the immediate vicinity. Any one familiar with the present congestion along Fourteenth Street needs no argument to convince him of the pressing need for more room when the influx of through vehicles is added.

To meet this natural condition, no temporary or makeshift method should be followed. The penny wise and pound foolish process here will prove doubly costly. If the right solution is not advanced now, there will be a permanent clog impeding all future movement. The daily cost of lost time in handling freight, the cost of accidents and delays from crowding will be far heavier than the initial expense of providing ample accommodations for years to come.

As the matter stands, there are two manifest needs: to widen Fourteenth Street to Main, and second to provide some way of diverting part of the travel from Main Street up to Broad by opening streets and fixing an easy grade. Three routes have been proposed for the latter improvement. The Council should adopt the most feasible and arrange for its improvement at once. The widening of Fourteenth Street can be achieved readily, save for the single block between Main and Cary. Here the City Engineer suggests that the roadway be extended to take in the present sidewalk space, and that either a strip of property on the east side of Fourteenth be condemned for a walkway, or that an elevated sidewalk be constructed above what is now the walk. A more ambitious project contemplates condemning sufficient property on the west side to make an open square that will meet the needs of the city for many years.

In fact, no plan that brings the desired results will be too ambitious. The interests of communication between Richmond and South Richmond demand the right treatment of a natural difficulty. We do not believe that an arcade or elevated walk is a permanent solution. Money should be spent to get enough room. Plans should be made at once. The bridge will be opened this summer. Now is the time to build solidly for the future of Richmond.

"EDUCATIONAL" COLLEGE ATHLETICS.

In the view of William F. Gascalon, until lately secretary and treasurer of the Harvard athletic committee, as expressed in the Harvard Alumni Bulletin, athletics in a college should mean a good deal more than turning out winning crews and teams. The success of the system, he argues, should be measured as much by the number of the men brought out of doors for exercise and enjoyment as by the number of games and races won.

Mr. Gascalon finds that there are some students with whom the fun of the game is the main thing, and who can play without the "stern set of the jaw which the modern illustrator imposes" on the American college athlete, and he wishes there were more. For, he continues, it is a comfort that there are men who can play without feeling that the reputation and the future of the university rest on their shoulders—their winning in every contest they enter.

In Mr. Gascalon's view, wish and comfort, there is food for serious reflection by both college athletic associations and college authorities.

In a recent conversation the head of one of the leading institutions of learning in Virginia remarked to one of his alumni that he was in favor of making college athletics compulsory. For, he reasoned, while the brawny, husky man, who did not need them, took to athletics naturally, the thin, narrow-chested, weak student, who did need them, and frequently, by seclusion, was cultivating his mind at the expense of his body, to the detriment of the former finally, was prone to shirk athletic sports. These constituted a class with whom, he held, athletics should be made "educational." In these observations there is also food for serious reflection by both college athletic associations and college authorities.

Although it may not be practicable to make college athletics compulsory, it ought to be practicable for the associations and authorities to stimulate engaging in them systematically by all classes of students—those who most need them, as well as those who, comparatively speaking, do not need them, as a health auxiliary of college life. It ought to be practicable to make "the fun of the thing" a recognized important "educational" feature in our college and university system.

TEACHERS VOTE FOR STATE FLOWER.

Last summer in the columns of The Times-Dispatch arose considerable discussion as to the choice of a State flower for Virginia. There was much diversity of opinion and the expression of many admirable sentiments. But no bloom seemed to hold the affections of any great number. Mountain laurel, the daisy, honeysuckle and a host of others had ardent advocates. Then, as is too often true of matters of sentiment, the question dropped from view.

Now comes the Virginia Journal of Education with a suggestion that should bring out a widespread expression of opinion from one group of citizens directly interested in the choice of a flower. "In order to ascertain the drift of opinion as to what flower should be selected," write the editors in the January number, "we invite the expression of their choice from superintendents and teachers. We suggest that local teachers' associations vote upon the question, or that superintendents submit it to their teachers and transmit the vote to the Journal, in Richmond, by April 15, 1913."

The teachers are naturally interested, for a State flower gives them a symbol wherewith they can impress upon their students the virtues of State patriotism and civic duty. They can use such a flower in school ceremonies and for decoration. Representing, as they do, all parts of the State, they will be fairly suggestive of general feeling. We hope they will see fit to cooperate with the Journal of Education, and we add that doubtless the ideas of other clubs and organizations will be gladly considered by the editors. The votes will certainly define what two or three flowers are favorites, and perhaps later a choice can be made among these.

INTERPRETING THE BUSINESS MAN.

The main text of Woodrow Wilson's late utterances has been an interpretation of the business man. He is giving his ideas of how the changing sentiment of the nation has affected the viewpoint of the business man. Specifically Mr. Wilson thinks the business man is improving. He believes that "In speaking to men of business, I am speaking to men whose vision is swinging around to the path which the nation has marked out for itself. They are swinging around to an unselfish and broader view of their duties to the people."

By the queer irony of public affairs, this praise of business and the consequent expression of a hope that such men would co-operate with him to further justice and equal opportunity, has roused a tumult of protest. There is immediate talk of a panic. A good many people seem to think the next President is making an academic spectacle of himself and threatening the prosperity of the people. They want to know where he stands. Yet their confusion comes only from the fact that Mr. Wilson stands where he has always stood, on a clean idealistic basis of common ethical beliefs. In every speech he has in some form repeated his faith, not in this or that patent political panacea, but in the conscience of an awakened people. He has declared that every man must feel right and work for right, and that this sentiment is a growth from within, not a compulsion from without. Now, just because he applies this standard to business men, and says they are learning to feel right and to understand their relationship to the common good, he mystifies the blind, who are not aware that some such real change has taken place in the heart of American commercial life.

It is not the real broad business man who finds fault with the Wilsonian interpretation of his social aspects. Big men are keenly aware that their business dealings are on a new plane. They know that public opinion can pillory them or hang them high as Haman, just as Mr. Wilson declared. They do not want to be hung. They are trying to live up to the new ideals. Who are the leaders of all large philanthropic, educational and artistic endeavors? Who are the men building clean factories equipped for the safety and health and convenience of the employee? Who else but the business man is shortening hours, instituting old age pensions, protecting women and children, and avoiding labor troubles by dealing out industrial justice? His reasons are not always so unselfish as Mr. Wilson conceives them, but he is responding to a higher idea of service.

In the last analysis, it is not merely money that a big man wants. He wants power, prestige, recognition and respect from his fellows. Once he could play a crooked game with fixed cards and special favors, and win honor for his achievements. Now the people are informed as to how money can be made from special privilege, and they give no honor to the man who wins money thus. Hence, to be successful by the new standards, to satisfy his ambitions to be known as a doer, the business man must serve. He must play straight. He cannot disregard public opinion and gain his great prize, recognition of his genius by his fellows.

This is the simple foundation thought Mr. Wilson preaches. He knows that success in the end depends on how society views that success. He says that to-day society has made new rules by which to judge of business success.

AN OPEN WINTER.

A letter from a Western city, where the writer had been kept indoors for eight days by the blizzards of sleet and snow, arouses mixed feelings in this Richmond of the "open winter." Certainly blizzards of sleet and snow are good things to escape. We inwardly congratulate ourselves on the Virginia climate. Yet there is a small bit of regret at the missed splendors and inspiration of rough and tumble winter. There can be a monotony of sunshine. Soft weather insensibly relaxes the mind and body, and here of late there have been suspicious symptoms of spring fever abroad in the land. The hard work that should be done in the cold weather is suffering when the open window and truant breezes invite a wandering mind. There couldn't possibly be any fishing, yet the thought of fishing lingers round-about. It is far from the harvest time of the mint crop, yet the ghostly fragrance of mint hovers in the imagination. Moonlight now ought to be an excuse for sitting closer to the fire, but our moonlight seems full of spring poetry.

Really the vigorous chastisement of winter is not altogether bad. There are no more colds in freezing weather than in weather that invites indiscretion and repays a single folly with the terrors of the grippe. The sting of frost wakes the sluggish blood and makes lazy men take exercise whether they will or no. Snow is mostly picturesque in poems, but it would be refreshing to hear the memorable shout of the schoolboy, and witness the momentary miracle of the veiled earth. Ice is needed to complement the mint crop. Winter sports are cheerful and picturesque. Sleighing by moonlight is not always a waste of time. Skating on frozen waters stirs the heart almost as the tug of a two-pound trout in midsummer. All in all, each season has its elements of livableness, and a touch of winter would not be unpleasant, if only to make us welcome spring.

THOUGHT-UNITS.

The Wall Street Journal is worried because of the magnitude of the units in which we express ourselves and in which we presumably think. This financial journal, which probably handles more large figures than any other publication in the country, believes that statistical statements should be reduced to standards which would bring their full meaning home to the average reader. By way of illustration, instead of saying that our inflated pension list cost $160,000,000 during the past fiscal year, it would be much more forcible to state that our indefensible pension policy costs every family of five persons $9 per annum. The burden of excessive taxation or rash fiscal policy could also be rendered more impressive by the statement that each family in the country has to provide on an average $200 yearly for municipal, county, State and Federal taxes other than tariff impositions, rather than to point out that such taxes aggregate between four and five billion dollars annually. Another example may also be taken from the legislation for public buildings, the notorious "pork barrel" appropriation, which will almost reach a total of $50,000,000 for the present session of Congress. The average citizen would be brought to a keener sense of the evil of this measure by showing him that in reality it is a tax of about $3 per family each year.

Bumper crops, railroad expenses and earnings, bank resources, and other large statistical statements would be more valuable and effective if they were put in a form in which they meant something to the reader who must perforce think under the limitations of the human intellect. We agree, without reservation, with the Wall Street Journal in its hope that statistics of trade, industry and finance may be set forth by methods which are within the range of human comprehension. The inflated type of statesman, who deals in buncombe, and the unscrupulous promoter and booster might possibly find the existence of such statistics disagreeable, but we feel sure that all other classes of readers would be greatly pleased as well as instructed.

Charlottesville is to be congratulated on securing the definite promise of better passenger facilities at its Union Station. For some years the matter of improving the present inadequate and unsafe terminal arrangements has been urged on the Chesapeake and Ohio, and Southern railroads. The Chesapeake and Ohio built a beautiful modern station at the lower end of the town, but heretofore both lines have resisted all efforts toward supplying the university city with union traveling accommodations in keeping with its importance as a main junction point and the seat of the State's first school. Now, under supervision of the Corporation Commission, the roads will construct a viaduct from Main Street to the station, and the latter will be raised a story. The drives for vehicles will also be improved. The necessity for these changes has only too often been proved by accidents resulting from the switching of all sorts of cars on tracks immediately surrounding the station and not even separated from it by a fence. We rejoice with the Charlottesville citizens that the approach to such a charming and beautiful place, visited annually by thousands of students, and tourists from within and without Virginia, is to be made worthy of the attractions to which it gives entrance.

Berlin is among the best governed cities of the world. An example of its modern ideals is the institution of English-speaking policemen at the principal street corners to guide American tourists in their sight-seeing trips. Of course, Berlin will lose nothing by being wide-awake, for the more convenient the city is made for visitors, the more visitors will come to fill the coffers of the thrifty Teuton. But it is this spirit of making things comfortable and home-like, and of regarding municipal government as really the business of taking care of people to make them happy, that is bringing the rest of the world to Germany for lessons in city management.

"Why is a mouse when it spins?" is Mr. George Perkins's epigram about the money trust. This must be the dialect of fair far Armageddon.

Is the pugilist's wife who wants to lead the suffrage parade at the inauguration of the militant variety?

The water-wagon has been skidding already.

On the Spur of the Moment.

By Roy K. Moulton.

Caught on the Fly.

About the only thing they haven't found in the ruins of Pompeii is a letter from John D. Archbald to some Roman Senator.

A man out West says it is possible to dress on $50 a year. Yes, and an Eskimo can do it even cheaper than that.

A Newark woman has tried ten times to commit suicide. She might try writing for the magazines and starving to death.

A Chicago professor says girls should be taught how to cook. Some men are mighty unreasonable. Next he will say they should learn how to darn a sock.

A West Virginia girl flagged a trian last week and prevented a wreck. Fortunately she was an old-fashioned girl and wore a red petticoat.

Applicants for Carnegie hero medals must, according to the new ruling, apply within three years of the heroic act. Too late for the hero who invented the noiseless soup spoon.

Chief Firemaker, who claims he is 131 years old, must remember the Indians when they did something beside playing football.

A New York roof garden is a garden in which they can't raise anything excepting prices.

One person in every 110 in this country owns an automobile. And he usually keeps the other 109 dodging him.

Castro and Diaz would not be opposed to Carnegie's plan to pension all ex-Presidents.

University of Pennsylvania professor says students eat too much, but the food trust is gradually curing them of the habit.

Spain should establish a sinking fund for the new navy.

An English aviator had been fined for running into a cow and killing her. Aviation in England apparently has not reached a very high stage.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson says he will retire March 4 next. This is one of the best guesses the secretary ever made.

Mrs. Carnegie might improve on pension idea by giving all the ex-Vice-Presidents hero medals.

Mr. Carnegie has been elected an honorary member of the Convicts Improvement Society. There is some doubt as to whether the society wants a medal, a pension or a library.

France is in the throes of a presidential campaign, and there is some talk of a French branch of the Ananias Club.

If the chief weather director is given a place in the Wilson Cabinet, as is talked, nobody will ever be able to predict with any degrees of certainty what will happen.

New York dispatch says one of the foreign nobleman kissed his fiance on the dock. Why not on the cheek?

But it will not take President Wilson so long to pass a given point in a parade as it did President Taft.

Mr. Short, of Cincinnati, has just been married. If the high cost of living keeps up he will be shorter than ever.

Another thing which puzzles pater familias is that the new tight skirts cost more than the old loose ones, with only about half the material used.

A French savant says man has six times more lung capacity than he needs. It is hard to believe this of Mr. Bryan or Elbert Hubbard.

A Boston pastor says a couple can marry on $15 a week. Sure, they can marry on it. It cost only $2 to do that.

An Eastern society advocates noiseless homes. But what is home without a phonograph?

A general war is predicted in Europe. Well, Europe certainly has the generals.

Heard in the Fifth Grade.

A semaphore is a young man who is in his second year in college.

A parallel is two lines that can never meet unless they are bent.

A skelington is a framework of bones without anybody on it.

There are 206 bones in the human body unless a man is a bonehead, and then there are 207.

An autocrat is a man who knows how to repair automobiles.

Diplomacy is the art of saying something that you don't mean to somebody who doesn't believe it.

Customer—Young lady, how do you sell your cream puffs?
Clerk—Heaven only knows.

VIEWS OF THE VIRGINIA EDITORS

A Good Samaritan of Sandy Valley.

Hard-working and Calloused-hand Pat Strother, who is closely related to the well-bred Strothers of Virginia, and who has chosen the work of a bricklayer as his occupation in life, while resting Saturday from a week of hard labor, saw a little waif on our streets who was half-naked and starved. The little fellow claimed he had not had anything to eat except a box of peanuts for a day. Mr. Strother without any ostentation or show quietly took the little vagabond to a store, bought him a nice suit of clothes, hat and underwear, and assisted by some friends, succeeded in placing him in the Presbyterian School at this place, where he agrees to pay one-half of his tuition and board.

How many "saints" and amen-corner guys in this town have shown as true a Christian spirit as Pat Strother did? No wonder your kind of religion is on the bumm when such charitable deeds as this is left for the hardened sinner to look after. People who are unwilling to rescue are unworthy to view the "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere," and we believe that Pat Strother ironed several wrinkles out of his heart by doing this noble act. To paraphrase John Hay, we will take our chances with Pat alongside of some pious gentlemen who wouldn't shake hands with him.—Sandy Valley News.

Where Is the Biggest Hog?

The big hog proposition is getting on our nerves. We are confident that Rockingham would carry off the blue ribbon if she could get her just deserts. Page County may boast of her 772-pound porkers; Shenandoah may make much noise over her hogs weighing all the way from 500 pounds up, but there is an old saying that every dog has his day. Then watch out for the Rockingham hog.

Just the other day we heard of a 600-pound hog up in the Plains District, and a friend of ours, who is noted for telling the truth, declares that one hog, that unfortunately dropped from the hook back into the water, weighed at least 1,000 pounds. Rockingham leads in everything else under the sun and she must not fall behind in hogs.—Harrisonburg News.

Dr. Mitchell's Qualifications.

We do not know what technical knowledge of agriculture Dr. Mitchell possesses. But we know that he was one of the leaders in the movement to improve farming conditions in Virginia. He was president of the Virginia Co-Operative Education Association of Virginia, and the work of that organization in reviving and vitalizing the public school system in Virginia is well known. It engineered the greatest educational propaganda Virginia has ever known, and when the people had been thoroughly aroused Dr. Mitchell called his co-workers together and said that the time had come for constructive work. He argued that the people throughout the rural districts had shown their willingness to increase their assessment for local schools. "It has now become a question of their ability," he added, "and the surest way to increase the school fund is to improve the farms and increase their productiveness."

As a result of this conference the services of T. O. Sandy, of Nottoway County, who had wrought wonders on his farm near Burkeville, converting red clay hills into splendid pastures and doubling and quadrupling the corn crop. Mr. Sandy stumped the State and told the farmers what he had done and how he had done it, and his work was so efficient that his services were engaged by the Department of Agriculture in Washington.

This does not prove that Dr. Mitchell is a farmer, but it is proof of his splendid executive ability and his constructive ability.

We have not heard whether or not he would accept the presidency of the V. P. I. if offered to him, but we have confidence that he would fill with ability and success any position he would accept; and if he says he can conduct the affairs of this institution, he will fill the place to the satisfaction of the State.—Newport News Times-Herald.

Abe Martin

Nobuddy kin insist as strenuously on havin' meat three times a day as th' feller that don't earn his salt. A clean shirt is mightier than long whiskers.

THE WORLD AT LARGE

Partially Rrong Diagnosis.

"Doctor," said the desponding youth, pointing to his chest, "my trouble is here."

"Angina pectoris, perhaps."

"You got her firs name, doctor," responded the gloomy caller; "it's Angelina, all right. But her other name is Higgins."—Chicago Tribune.

A Fish Out of Water.

A fish that can live out of water for months, possibly for a year, has recently been added to the Museum of Natural History in New York. It came from Africa. The specimen is called a lung-fish, because when out of water it inhales air as if it were a land animal, though when in the water it breathes through gills. The fish was received at the museum in a dormant condition coiled up in a cocoon, sunken in a clod of earth, which had been dug up from a dried-up river bottom in Africa.

When received at the museum the cake of earth showed a little tunnel like opening where the fish burrowed in the soft mud and through which later it secured its supply of air. As far as is known, this is the second specimen of a lung-fish ever brought to this country, and it will be viewed with great interest by the many visitors to the museum.—The Christian Herald.

Poor Talker.

She—"There's always a crowd round the dear old professor. He's such a wonderful conversationalist." He—"Lor'! You really think so? I tried him just now on every possible topic—hounds, bridge, golf, musichalls, everything—and he was simply useless."—Punch.

Negro Invasion Feared.

The London Evening Standard gives prominence to a warning by an anonymous manager of a London detective agency of the danger of "an invasion of England by negroes, especially American, which has been proceeding steadily for two years."

This agency says that its investigation of the white slave traffic has brought it into contact with "Englishmen's traditional tolerance of the differences of color, race and creed, which has blinded them to the danger which is now threatening them.

"London is the paradise of the black man, and the American negro has discovered this fact. Every ship from the United States brings fresh arrivals to swell the large colony which is already here, where they are treated on an equal footing at the lodging houses and boarding houses and sit at the same table with whites.

"For the first time in their lives they are permitted to mix with white women on social equality. This has created a grave peril, which is becoming worse every day."

The agency report draws an ugly picture of the negro character, and referring to the Southern States of the United States, says:

"Lynching seems to be the only way to prevent the wholesale commission of crimes against womanhood by modern negroes, because fear is the sole restraining influence they know."—New York Sun.

Voice of the People

Mr. Laird on Union Depot.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—I was very much surprised to read in this morning's issue of The Times-Dispatch an article purporting to emanate from the Chamber of Commerce committee on streets, roads and parks on the subject of a union depot. As this article may mislead many of your readers, I think it proper for me to state that the matter of promoting the establishment of a union depot in Richmond has been intrusted by the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce to the inland trade committee, and I feel quite sure that your reporter has done an injustice to the chamber's committee on streets, roads and parks in putting its members in the attitude of taking up, considering and giving publicity to a matter that had been formally intrusted by the board to another committee.

I do not deem it necessary to undertake to discuss at this time the merits of the different locations suggested for a union depot, but feel it time to state that so far as the inland trade committee is concerned, the union depot is not sleeping, but is a very live proposition. Only a few weeks ago I made a trip North in the interest of this matter and last week spent an entire day in conferences on this subject. The outlook is by no means discouraging, and it is my opinion that a union passenger station will be established in Richmond in accordance with the views of the inland trade committee in the not far distant future, and that all railway lines radiating from Richmond will find it to their interest to make use of this union station for the purpose of conserving economy and improved service, and in response to public sentiment and competition.

E. C. LAIRD,
Chairman Inland Trade Committee.
Richmond, Va., January 16, 1913.

Y. P. I. Belongs to the People.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—In an editorial you ask what is the sentiment of the alumni of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute with regard to selection of a president for that institution. As an agricultural graduate of V. P. I., and not at present connected with any local chapter of alumni, I wish to say that I am in accord with the sentiments already expressed by the New York and Roanoke chapters, and can heartily endorse the attitude taken by the Times-Dispatch and the Southern Planter. No friend of the institution wishes the presidency to be made subject to political preferment, and, naturally, the best man for the place will not be found seeking it, but will himself have to be sought out.

In order, however, that the school may attain its highest usefulness, the farmers and other citizens of the State must realize that it belongs to them, and that any injury to its functions is a distinct loss to them. There has been altogether too much "knocking." Those who should try to guard the reputation of their State institution take up rumors and roll them as sweet morsels under their tongue. If advice and suggestions will be of any use, the board of visitors will no doubt find a good man, and when he is found the people of the State should give him the support and confidence which he has a right to claim, and without which he must be at a serious disadvantage.

WALTER L. MALLORY.
Sterling.

Tax the Idle Land.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Sunday's paper says that the number of mortgaged farms in Virginia has increased in recent years from 3 per cent to 16 per cent.

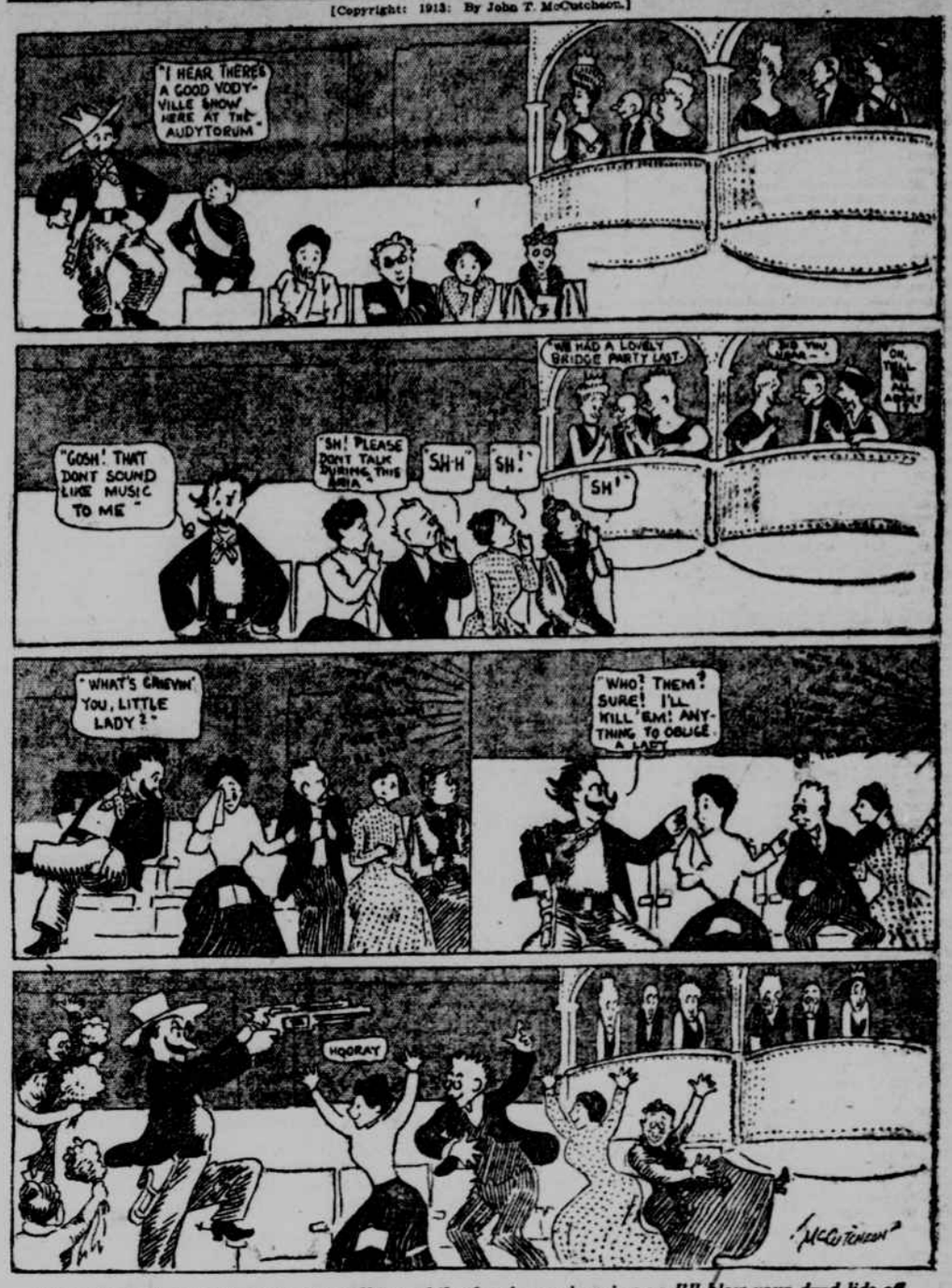
Your words would imply that you don't see the "nigger in the woodpile"; at least, you don't make any application of this strange condition to present day needs. Of course, the number of mortgages is going to increase. All Virginia land near the social and commercial centers is increasing in value about 10 per cent a year. Most of such land is assessed for taxes at about one-fourth of its real value—some at one-tenth. A very large part of the desirable land in Virginia is now held "out of use," or only partly used, and is producing very little, and at the same time the holder of the title to this desirable land can borrow money on it to an amount more than equal to the tax assessment on it. Don't that make you wonder what is the matter with our land tax assessors? What kind of men have we in our Legislature? They cut down the appropriation for the normal schools and docked the old veterans 10 per cent, and said that retrenchment was necessary as the State did not have the money. Virginia has a rich tax basis in her growing land values that are making certain speculators rich. Tax the idle land into use, and invest the money in public service for the good of the community that created the land values.

"PIEDMONT."
Charlottesville.

THE REAL HERO OF THE OPERA.

Catamount Bill of Dead Man's Gulch Attends the Opera.

By John T. McCutcheon.



"Say, if you d—d fools don't stop talking while there's music going on I'll blow your d—d lids off, and that goes, too!"

QUERIES & ANSWERS

Washington at Yorktown.

Some time ago a correspondent wrote you about the story that Washington cursed Cornwallis at the surrender at Yorktown, and you stated that it could not be true. Whether you will believe it or not, my father was well acquainted with a Virginian who was present at the surrender, and he always told me that the incident occurred. T. O.

We doubt if we stated that the story could not be true. We probably did say that in spite of some small inclination toward lurid language, General Washington was too good a judge of the proprieties ever to employ unbecoming words on a great occasion, and that Cornwallis was not at the surrender, General O'Hara taking his place in command. As to believing the statement that three persons—you, your father and your father's friend—can bridge the gap from the present to the time of the Yorktown surrender, that is easy. Four might go back to good Queen Bess. On the unlikely condition that each father was eighty years older than his son, the great-grandfather of a man now living might have been a page in the court of Elizabeth.

Equal Suffrage.

What States allow equal suffrage? Has it improved conditions in those States? JOHN E. GRASTY.

Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Washington, California, Arizona, Kansas, Oregon. School suffrage prevails in some form in thirty-one States. We are not sufficiently informed about the past and the present political conditions in the States named to be able to say whether they are "improved" or not. The right of women to equal suffrage is not conditioned on its "improving" anything any more than your right to collect a debt is conditioned on your making wiser use of the money than your debtor would have made.

Poetical.

Please tell me the author of the verses beginning "Just a multitude of curls." Who was the author of "Hut du dich," the original of Longfellow's "Beware"? Where may the German be found? R. B. D.

Cora Sabbri. The authorship is not known. The lines may be found in "Representative German Poems," edited by Karl Knortz, and published by Henry Holt Co., New York City.